

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 AID-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 HEW-02 PM-04 IGA-01 /056 W

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R 251850Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1545

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 4065

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

REF: (A) STATE 183202; (B) SAN JOSE 3210

1. DESPITE INDICATIONS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN TO EMBASSY (REFTEL B), EMBASSY HAS HEARD FROM HIGHLY-PLACED SOURCE THAT AN INVESTIGATION WILL BE LAUNCHED IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROJECTS IN COSTA RICA, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO GRANTS TO PUEBLO AND THE SCHOOL FOR PLANNING AND SOCIAL PROMOTION AT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. IF THIS DEVELOPS, EMBASSY MAY WELL HAVE TO CONSIDER SOME PUBLIC STATEMENT. WE ARE THINKING OF SOMETHING ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION IS AN AUTONOMOUS AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WHICH OPERATES INDEPENDENTLY IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA WHICH ARE ENGAGED IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. THE FOUNDATION NEED NOT, AND DID NOT IN THE CASE OF ITS GRANTS TO PUEBLO (PUBLICACCIONES ECUMENICAS, S.R.) AND TO THE SCHOOL FOR PLANNING AND SOCIAL PROMOTION, OBTAIN THE APPROVAL OF THIS EMBASSY OR ANY OTHER USG ORGANIZATION,"

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2. THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS

OR SUGGESTIONS ON ABOVE DRAFT STATEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT ODUBER HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO THE AMBASSADOR AND SEVERAL OTHERS THAT HE IS VERY UNHAPPY OVER THESE GRANTS. SINCE THIS VIEW IS SHARED IN CONSERVATIVE CIRCLES, IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT THE IAF WILL HAVE MANY DEFENDERS IF THIS DOES BECOME AN ISSUE IN THE ASSEMBLY. PRESSURE MAY WELL BUILD TO INSIST THAT THE IAF CANCEL ITS GRANTS, AND THE QUESTION MAY ARISE WHY GOCR APPROVAL IS NOT ROUTINELY REQUESTED BEFORE PROJECTS FINANCED BY A USG ENTITY GO FORWARD.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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